

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

GITTINGS-BALDWIN HOUSE

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

13717 Baldwin Mill Road

CITY, TOWN

Baldwin

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Maryland Department of Natural Resources Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Tawes State Office Building

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
Maryland 21401**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC Baltimore County Courthouse

Liber #: 4891

Folio #: 339

STREET &amp; NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Baltimore County Historic Sites Survey

BA 265

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☒ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Baltimore County Office of Planning &amp; Zoning

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

## 7 DESCRIPTION

BA-265

**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☒ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ UNALTERED  
☐ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

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The GITTINGS-BALDWIN HOUSE is a two story stone house, covered with stucco scored in imitation of ashlar. With its principal facade to the south it is in two contemporaneous sections, architecturally related to the slightly later Limespring Farm (BA-141) q.v. Like Limespring Farm the absence of a vertical joint in the stonemasonry indicates the single construction period. The principal and taller section measures, approximately,  $23\frac{1}{2}$  by 36 feet and the lower service wing measures, approximately,  $23\frac{1}{2}$  by  $39\frac{1}{2}$  feet; together they measure, approximately,  $23\frac{1}{2}$  by  $75\frac{1}{2}$  feet and they correspond to a dwelling identified in the 1798 Federal Direct Tax records which, together with the extensive original detailing and construction features visible, indicates a construction date late in the eighteenth century. A porch formerly sheltered the lower story of the south front of the taller section. Most original details remain, though in fair-to-poor condition including: scored stucco; the cornicework with a course of drilled dentils (the rake cornices and eave returns are late nineteenth century additions); most original windows, doors and transoms; much shutter hardware with fragments of the shutters.

Internally a stair hall extends through the westerly bay of the taller section and a single parlor occupies the remaining two bays. In the lower east wing is a dining room with a kitchen at the extreme east end separated by a pantry and secondary stair. Virtually all the original detailing remains including: the staircase

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

See page 7-2

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The GITTINGS-BALDWIN HOUSE is a substantial stone house of a prosperous farmer dating from the late eighteenth century, one of four structures in this Historic District identified in the 1798 Federal Direct Tax records, hence among the oldest in the District. It is architecturally related to the slightly later LIMESPRING FARM (BA 141). It retains an unusual and significant quantity of its original exterior and interior detailing, in spite of its fair-to-poor physical condition. The details are typical of the period, liberally adapted from eighteenth century English design books.

Three major early structures remain of the many which were required to support early rural life, supplemented with several later ones.

The GITTINGS-BALDWIN HOUSE was built on part of Brooke's Cross, Standiford's Claim, and Brown's Farm, some of the extensive holdings of James Gittings, Senior (1735-1823), proprietor of Long Green Farm on the Gittings' Choice tract surveyed for Thomas Gittings in 1720-21. It is said to have been built for or by one of Gittings' younger sons, Archibald, "and may date from the 1790's. ...As it stands today, the house represents an ideal of well-to-do life in late eighteenth century central Maryland."<sup>1</sup>

The house appears on the 1798 tax list as the stone house

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

see page 8-2

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 268.74

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

James T. Wollon, Jr. A.I.A.; Elmer R. Haile, Jr.

ORGANIZATION

Historic Long Green Valley, Inc.

DATE

August 3, 1981

STREET &amp; NUMBER

c/o Julia Randall 5539 Hillrise Road

TELEPHONE

(301) 592-2629

CITY OR TOWN

Glen Arm

STATE

Maryland 21057

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

BA-265 A  
BA-265 C  
Barn  
BA-265 B  
corncrib

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

ARCHIBALD GITTINGS HOUSE (and outbuildings)

AND/OR COMMON

GITTINGS/BALDWIN HOUSE

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

North of Baldwin Mill Road

CITY, TOWN

Baldwin

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

☒ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

#### CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

#### OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC  
☐ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

#### PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

#### STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED  
☒ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

#### PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☒ OTHER Riding Academy

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

State of Maryland, Dept. of Natural Resources Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Tawes State Office Building

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

MD. 21401

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC

Baltimore County Court House

STREET & NUMBER

Liber #: 4891

Folio #: 339

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

MD.

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION****CONDITION**☐ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☒ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED**CHECK ONE**☒ UNALTERED☐ ALTERED**CHECK ONE**☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVEDDATE C 1800-1870**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

The Gittings/Baldwin House (BA-265) is a large stone dwelling of the very early 19th and possibly late 18th centuries. It is six bays long in two two-storey sections of three bays each, on a long axis running from southwest to northeast. The ridges of the gable roofs are on axis. The southwestern section is the larger of the two, with a significant difference in the height of their respective storeys such that there is no communication between the second storeys of each section or their attics. The plan is contained within a single large rectangle, ie, all exterior walls are flush.

The stone of the walls is laid in uncoursed rubble, mostly granite. There are some very large corner stones visible at each of the corners, but no apparent attempt at real coining. Most of the walls are still covered in old stucco. Aside from the obvious break between the two sections there is no evidence of change or addition in the external walls. However, the existence of three internal stone partition walls parallel to the long axis suggests construction in more than two parts. This is not reflected in the roof framing (other than in the lack of communication between the two sections) which is pegged with collar beams and has no ridgepole.

Fenestration is in vertically aligned bays, generally 9/9 double hung sash on the first floor, 6/9 on the second, and two 1/1 windows at the west end of the north wall. There are entrances at the first floor level in the west bay of the south wall and of the north wall, and one in the east end-wall. There is a large window or door, now blocked, in the west end-wall, and one at the landing level of the main stair in the west end of the north wall (the only opening out of horizontal alignment) above the first floor door. Doors are six-paneled, the major entrance door in the south wall having a transom of four tangent semicircles. There are boxed cornices front and rear (north and south) the facade (south) cornice having a fine dentil moulding (with the unusual addition of drill holes above the slots between the dentils) below a fluted quarter-round moulding and above a cyma reversa strip, a flat strip and a quarter rounded finish. The north moulding is similar but much more simple, lacking the dentils and the cyma. The boxed eaves have (or have had) returns. There are large brick chimneys in the east endwalls of both sections.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1800

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Gittings/Baldwin is notable both for its architectural characteristics and its rich associations with local families and history.

As it stands today, the house represents an ideal of well to do life in late 18th century central Maryland. While the earliest portion of the house was undoubtedly modest, by the time it had reached its present appearance, reflecting the rising fortunes of the Gittings family, it was as elegant as might be hoped for at that time and place. The capacious entry and stair hall is relatively unusual, but an obvious statement that the builder could afford the extravagance of a grand space.

The three interior stone walls and the extreme level change in the ground floor at the middle wall indicate that the house was built in at least three, and possibly four parts. A detailed physical examination would help to illuminate the problem.

The house was built either for or by Archibald Gittings (? - 1828) and may date from the 1790's. The Gittings were prominent landholders in Baltimore County. In 1720, Archibald's grandfather, Thomas Gittings (1621? - 1760), originally from Kent County, obtained a patent from Lord Baltimore for Gittings Choice, a portion of the original land grant. In his will dated 3 November, 1758, he left the property to his son James, senior (1735 - 1823). James, senior, was a prominent farmer and miller, and active participant in the Revolution, a colonel in the militia, and a member of the Maryland General Assembly. Attesting to his regional prominence is a family portrait painted by Charles William Peale in 1791 depicting James, senior, with his wife Elizabeth (Buchanan) and an unidentified granddaughter. In the background is the mill set among the gentle slopes of an extensive estate (this painting is in the collection of the Walters Art Gallery, Baltimore). In his will dated 16? September, 1818, he left most of this

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Gittings/Baldwin House, file XI - 265 (Balto. Co. Hist. Soc.)  
a letter from Matilda Lacey to Alice Martin dated 1/70

Gittings Family Data filing case "A" (Md. Hist. Soc. Lib.)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

An arbitrary rectangle of approximately 2 acres containing  
the three buildings noted.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

John Hnedak

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created  
by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the  
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(301) 267-1438



GITTINGS-BALDWIN HOUSE

Item 7, page 2

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with its tapered square newels hollowed to simulate four balusters; mantels with fluted pilasters' supporting entablature-shelves; architrave trim; paneled jambs and doors; chair railing; cupboards.

East of the house is a group of farm buildings, dating from no later than the mid-nineteenth century, each with hewn timber braced-frames: a corn house consisting of cribs on either side of a driveway; a shop; and a large bank barn.

nder construction assessed to James Gittings, Jr. His brother Thomas is assessed for a stone mansion presumably THE HOMESTEAD (BA 386). Measurements of the GITTINGS-BALDWIN HOUSE and of THE HOMESTEAD (east wing), compared with the 1798 measurements, support this conjecture. Thomas died in 1806, and we may again conjecture that James, Jr. then took over The HOMESTEAD and Archibald (now come of age) the GITTINGS-BALDWIN HOUSE. Archibald is assessed for \$200 improvements in 1813.

The 1850 Sidney atlas shows the house as J. R. Gittings, with most of the surrounding property belonging to the Baldwin family who came from Harford County. The 1877 Hopkins atlas shows the house as Dr. A. S. Baldwin's, again surrounded by other Baldwins and locating Baldwin Mill to the northwest on the Little Gunpowder. Hence the names of Baldwin village and Baldwin Mill Road.

The house and outbuildings are currently the property of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, as part of the Gunpowder State Park, central Little Gunpowder section. The house is unoccupied and in bad repair. The recent master-plan for Gunpowder State Park suggests that it be leased to a private individual for restoration. James T. Wollon, Jr. A.I.A. has been called in to estimate the cost of appropriate measures.

1. John Hnedak, Report on D.N.R. Historic Properties, n.d. Copy MHT

Several distinct layers of stucco are visible in large patches on the exterior. All of it is grooved to resemble ashlar. Some of the scoring over the windows simulates splayed flat arches.

There are numerous remnants of early wrought-iron shutter and window hardware on the exterior, including hooks-and-eyes and spring latches.

The interior is divided into four sections by three interior masonry walls running perpendicular to the longitudinal axis. They are from east to west a kitchen, two large living spaces, and a spacious entrance and stair hall. There is a level change of five steps between the two living spaces, the western being higher. The second storey arrangement is similar except that the level change is more drastic and there is no communication between the two levels. There is a significant amount of original wood work in the interior including six-paneled doors, correspondingly paneled reveals in the interior masonry openings; two fine mantel-pieces and a very fine stairway. The mantels are on opposite sides of the central wall, at the level change. The eastern is of course lower, and it is the simplest of the two, consisting of bead, board, and moulding around three sides of the fireplace, a blank "frieze" with a dentil and moulding cornice above and a final shelf. The dentils of this moulding correspond to those of the exterior south cornice, with drill holes above the slots between the dentils. The upper mantel in the western room is more elaborate with flat fluted pilasters supporting a frieze and dentil course brought forward above the pilasters and in a wide central portion. This central portion is also fluted. This supports a straight complex moulding and a shelf. Significant features of the stair are the scroll ends, simple square section balusters of very slight proportions and elegant attenuated newels. These are square in sections with round end verticle cutouts on all four sides, tapering toward the top, making a tall "cage". The total of significant woodwork in the house suggests several periods straddling the end of the 18th century.

There are two outbuildings of some interest associated with the house, both to the northeast. The first is a drive-through corncrib (BA-265-B) of heavy timber-pegged framing. The drive is spanned by very large rough-hewn beams. The siding is vertically flush-boarded. The structure is believed to have been built in the late 19th century, and has not been significantly altered. The second structure is the old main barn (BA-265-C), which is built into a bank to the south of the corncrib. The principal entrance is on the uphill side, on the north. The framing is pegged heavy timber, the siding vertically flush-board. The roof framing over the central portion suggests the prior existence of a cross-gable. The eaves are decorated with complex small-scale scalloped bargeboards.

estate to his eldest son, James, junior (1769 - 1819). To his younger son Archibald, he left three contiguous parcels nearby: Brooke's Cross, 386 acres purchased from John Brooke in 1772, Staniford's Claim, 202<sup>7</sup> acres purchased from William Staniford in 1773, and Brown's Farm (n.d.). The house stands on a portion of this former estate.

This house is among the most significant structures owned by the department of Natural Resources, based upon its architecture and the significant extent of the remaining original fabric and is unquestionably eligible for the National Register. Its current use is unacceptable in that it does not provide regular occupation or promote upkeep. A regular continuing use for this house must be found. A residential use is preferable, especially in that it would entail the very least adaptation of the building, probably not at all, outside improved plumbing and heating. Beyond this, and providing for regular maintenance and upkeep which does not compromise the structure, and changes should be preceded by an historic structures report. The house is complex and contains a wealth of decorative and structural detail which could be very enlightening. There is much that remains to be known about the house and physical evidence should provide many answers.

The needed work to preserve the integrity is, in general, obvious. The structure appears to be sound but should be carefully examined for defects. The stone work should be re-mortared and repaired where need be, and finally stuccoed and scored. Nearly all shutters need to be replaced. Some doors and windows require carpentry repairs. Parts of the cornice and boxed eaves need replacement, and all exterior woodwork requires painting immediately. The composition roof is in no immediate need of repairs, but should ultimately be replaced with a more appropriate material.

Interior work is less urgent and more generally cosmetic. Genuine restoration would require the findings of an historic structures report before they could be planned, and the current state of the interior (aside for the kitchen and bathrooms) is probably not substantially different from its original state. The woodwork should be more carefully and appropriately painted, and all attempts at even apparently trivial changes should be strongly discouraged pending the findings of a structures report.

In the interim, every effort must be made to give the structure adequate routine maintenance. This house is quite frankly at the brink of deterioration, and neglect at this stage would doubtless lead to gradually increasing and irretrievable losses of the original fabric. The structure deserves the highest priority for the allocation of funds, but at minimum should be given some attention.

The Maryland Historical Trust is available (and is in fact charged with providing) for technical assistance in these matters. No major work should be done without first consulting the Trust for advice. This is especially important in matters of masonry, stucco and painting.

Gittings/Baldwin House  
Bibliographical References (cont'd)

Page 2

Gittings and Strerett Family History, filing case "A" (Md. Hist. Soc. Lib.)

Interview with William Marge (1886 - ?), great grandnephew of Archibald Gittings, geneologist and amateur archeolgist, Baltimore City, 30 July, 1979.

0302654904

N. R. FIELD SHEET

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: BA- 265	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON:	Archibald Gittings House
AND OR HISTORIC:	Dr Abraham Baldwin House

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: East side Baldwin Mill Road about 0.2 mi north of			
CITY OR TOWN: Baldwin Pleasantville Road.			
STATE: Maryland	CODE:	COUNTY: Baltimore	CODE:

3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/> Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	Abandoned Residence	
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: Maryland Department of Forests & Parks (Gunpowder Falls Park)			
STREET AND NUMBER: State Office Building			
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis	STATE: Md.	CODE:	STATE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Clerk of the Circuit Court			
STREET AND NUMBER: Baltimore County Courthouse			
CITY OR TOWN: Towson	STATE: Md.	CODE:	COUNTY:
APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:			

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY:			
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/>			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE:	ENTRY NUMBER
			DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

Colon 14 Nov 12, 1-7 BW 3-8

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Immediate attention needed. This fine old manor house is open to the weather. The roof is open on the south side and vines are coming into the sky light over the south hall door. Accessible to vandals.

A two-part stone house, stuccoed, 2 1/2 stories in each part, the house originally faced south, but the lane runs north of the house and it is entered through the east door. Ridge line of the steep roofs run east-west. Both parts of the house have three bays and are one room deep, woodwork in both parts is similar, as are windows, suggesting that ~~both~~ <sup>both sections were</sup> completed near the same time. ~~It was~~

The smaller part, to the east, has a chimney on the west wall, windows downstairs are 9 over 9, upstairs 9 over 6. A doorway is in the east wall leading to the barns.

The larger part, to the west, has a chimney in the west wall also. The hall runs thru the house with doors on the west side of each

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian <input type="checkbox"/>	16th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	18th Century <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	20th Century <input type="checkbox"/>
15th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	17th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	19th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/>	Education <input type="checkbox"/>	Political <input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Phi- <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Historic <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	losophy <input type="checkbox"/>	
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Architecture</u>
Art <input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Colonial</u>
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Human- <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Archaeology</u>
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	itarian <input type="checkbox"/>	
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	
	Music <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

A fine old manor house has gradually fallen into decay as the land around it failed to yield incomes comparable to farming incomes. Unusual in this area, within automobile-commuting distance of Baltimore, that it was not bought by non-farm owners and restored as a country estate.

Mr W. Mays (see #9) descendant of the original purchaser from Lord Calvert in 1735, James Gittings, informs us that three thousand acres of the original tract were willed to each of Gittings children, and that Archibald Gittings probably built this house. He died in 1828.

At a later date the house belonged to Dr. Abraham Baldwin and then to his son Clarence, who died in 1941.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

151265

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

No known written account. Wm. Marye, chief correspondent of the Maryland Historical Society 201 W Monument St. Baltimore, has given a verbal account of the original owners, Lee Gittings, from whom he is descended.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
SE	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"
SW	° ' "	° ' "		°	'	"

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Jean S. Swick		
ORGANIZATION: Maryland Historic Trust	DATE: Nov. 69.	
STREET AND NUMBER: 50 State Circle		
CITY OR TOWN: Annapolis	STATE: Maryland	CODE:

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

DRAFT

Archibald Gittings House  
Baltimore County BA-263  
265

#7 PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Immediate attention needed. This fine old manor house is open to the weather. The roof is open on the south side and vines are coming into the sky light over the south hall door. Accessible to vandals.

A two-part stone house, stuccoed, two-and-a-half stories in each part. The house originally faced south, but the lane runs north of the house and it is entered through the east door. Ridge line of the steep roofs run east-west. Both parts of the house have three bays and are one-room deep. Woodwork in both parts is similar, as are windows, suggesting that both sections were completed near the same time.

The smaller part, to the east, has a chimney on the west wall. Windows downstairs are nine over nine, upstairs nine over six. A doorway is in the east wall leading to the barns.

The larger part, to the west, has a chimney in the west wall also. The hall runs through the house with doors on the west side of each north or south facade. Both hall doors are panelled. The south door having a seven-light frame over the door. The floor level of this part is about five steps above that of the other section. Windows in the larger section are nine over nine downstairs, six over nine upstairs. The west wall has one large win-

DRAFT

Archibald Gittings House

Baltimore County BA-263 265

#8 SIGNIFICANCE [submitted by Miss Jean Ewing, Nov. 20, 1969]

A fine old manor house has gradually fallen into decay as the land around it failed to yield incomes comparable to farming incomes. Unusual in this area, within automobile-commuting-distance of Baltimore, that it was not bought by non-farm owners and restored as a country estate.

*William*  
Mr. W. Marye (see #9) descendent of the original purchaser from Lord Calvert in 1735, James Gittings, informs us that three thousand acres of the original tract were willed to each of Gittings' children, and that Archibald Gittings probably built this house. He died in 1828.

At a later date the house belonged to Dr. Abraham Baldwin and then to his son Clarence, who died in 1941.

The owners from 1941 to the date of purchase by the State have put little or nothing into the house. Basic repairs, as noted above, have been neglected for decades. A modern stove is abandoned in an easterly room. Electric wiring is crudely put in. Outdoors no proper fences or planting protect the house and the stucco has fallen away from the stones in wide areas.

However it must be emphasized that the house has not been altered, and therefore retains elements of the original structure that should make a very rewarding restoration effort.

DRAFT

PAGE 2

Archibald Gittings House

Baltimore County BA-263 265

#7 PHYSICAL APPEARANCE continued

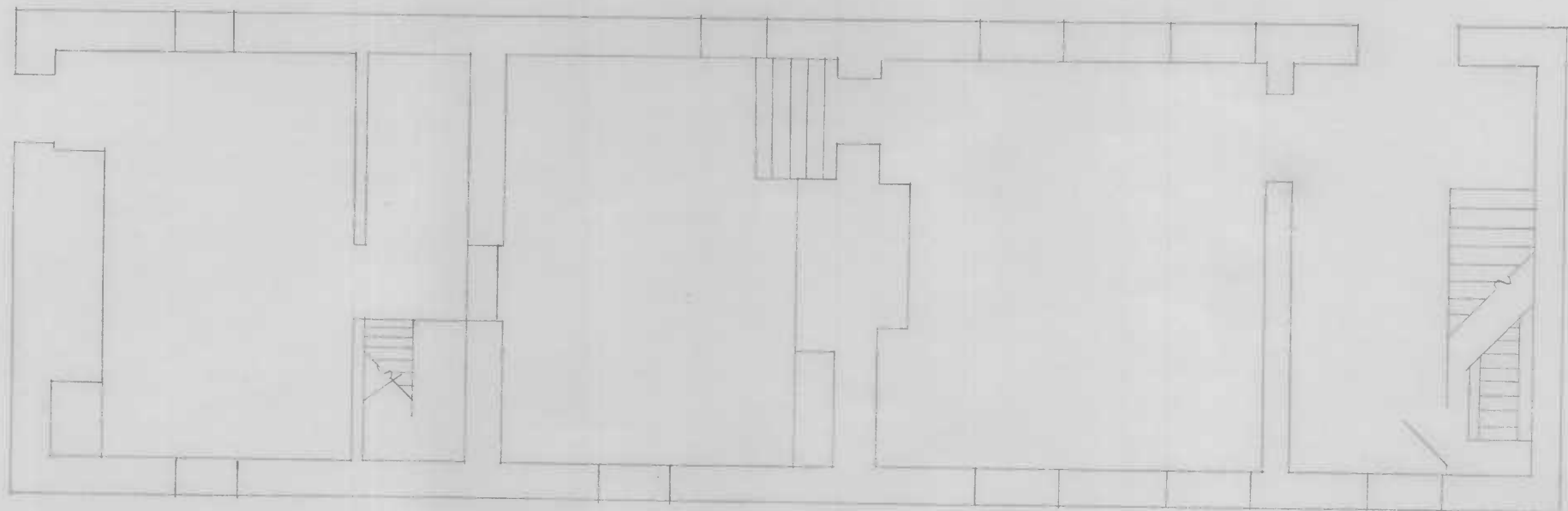
dow, twelve over twelve, beside the chimney. The south facade of this part of the house has a cornice of dentell trim. Other outside trim throughout is a simple beaded moulding.

This house has been in disrepair for years, ~~decades~~. There is a ten-year-old gas stove in the east room and electric wiring is crudely put in, but ~~neglect is evident inside and out:~~ the windows need putty, the roof is open to the sky, stucco has fallen off the <sup>exterior</sup> walls in large areas. No proper fence, garden, or even tree is there.

(\*) ~~It must be emphasized that~~  
~~However, the house has not been altered, or destroyed,~~  
~~and, therefore, retains elements of its old spacious elegance, that original structure~~  
~~so that it~~ <sup>very</sup> should make a rewarding restoration.

[description of physical appearance submitted by Miss  
Jean Ewing, November 20, 1969]

(\*) The house has been little ~~so~~ altered,  
~~from its~~ it retains most <sup>the</sup> original architectural  
details and would ~~be~~ make a worthwhile  
subject for restoration.



BA-265



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS, USC&GS, and USCE

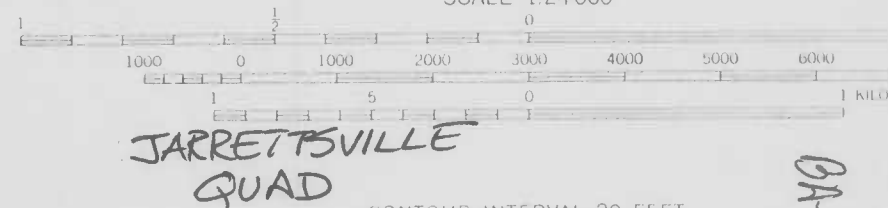
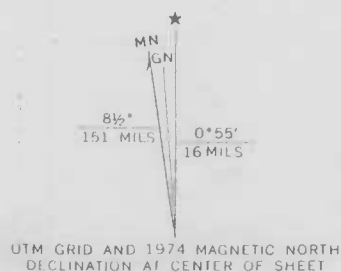
Topography from aerial photographs by multiplex methods

Aerial photographs taken 1954. Field check 1956

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system  
1,000 meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 18, shown in blue

Unchecked elevations are shown in brown

Shaded areas in purple compiled from aerial  
photographs taken 1974. This information not field checked



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

BA-265





GITTINGS-BALDWIN HOUSE  
Gunpwr 001

BA-265

view from the south

MHT Photo

(~~10~~ 1977?)



GITTINGS - BALDIVIA HOUSE

BA-265

MAIN BARN BA-265-A

FROM THE NORTH

JDH

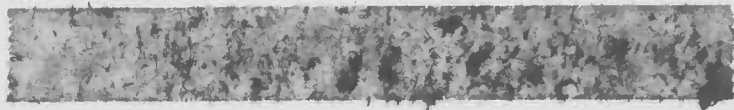
JULY 1978



Gittings-Baldwin House BA-265  
Gunpowder 001

noethwest elevation (southwest end)

JDH      July 1978

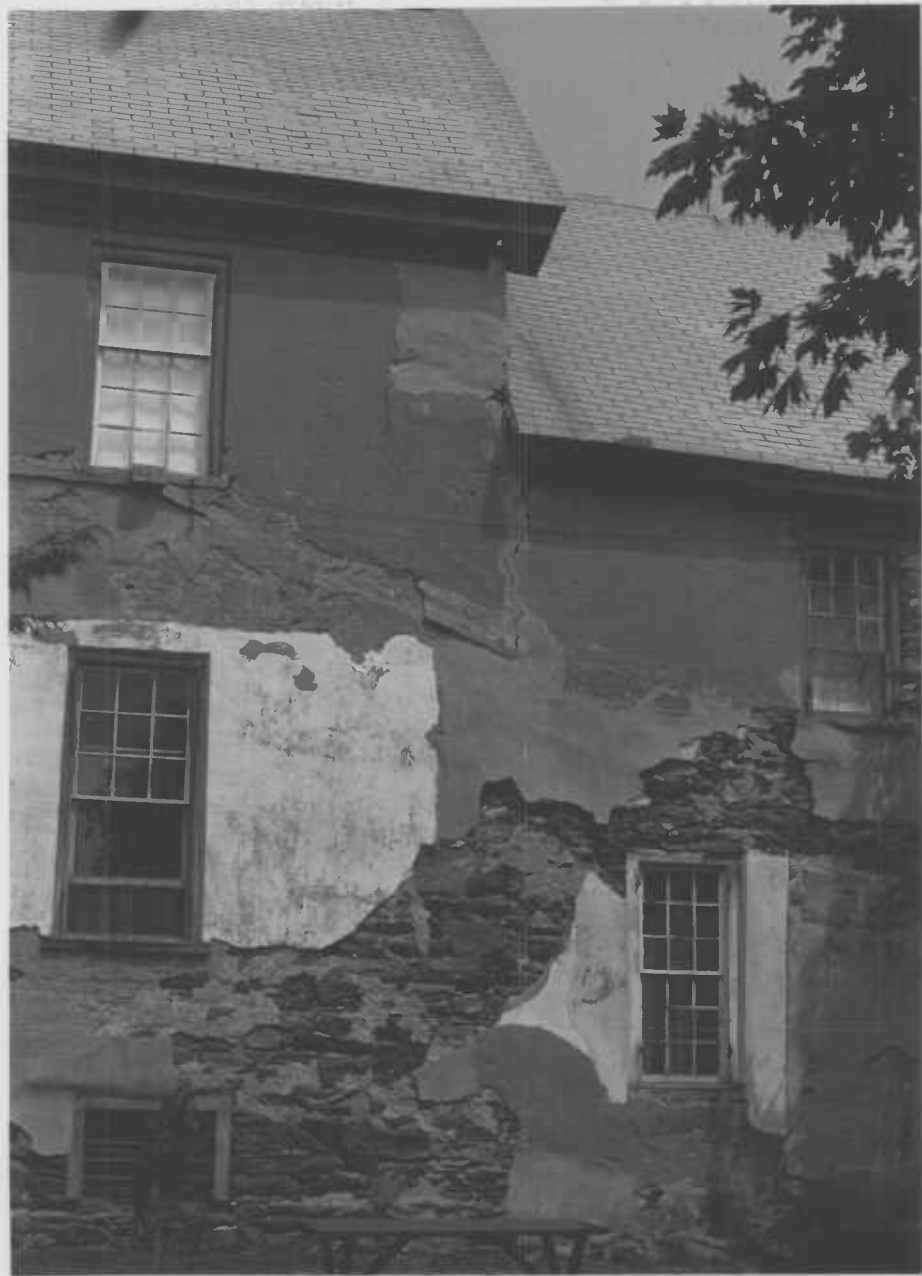




GITTINGS-BALDWIN HOUSE  
BA-265 - GUNPOWDER -001  
DETAIL, WEST CORNER

JDA

JULY 1978





GITTINGS-BALDWIN HOUSE

BA-265

Gunpowder 001

northwest elevation, junction of the two  
wings

JDH

Jly 1978



GITTINGS-BALDWIN HOUSE  
Gunpowder 001

BA-265

NW elevation, detail, sw door

JDH

july 1978



GITTINGS-BALDWIN HOUSE  
Gunpowder 001

BA-265

Interior door, between the two wings,  
south wall

JDH 1978



GITTINGS-BALDWIN HOUSE  
Gunpowder 001

BA-265

Detail, window and stucco

JDH

July 1978







GITTINGS-BALDWIN HOUSE  
Gunpowder 001

BA-265

interior, mantel

*South porch*

JDH

July 1978





GITTINGS-BALDWIN HOUSE BA-265  
Gunpowder ~~10~~ 001

interior, mantel, *north parlor*

JDH

July 1978



GITTINGS-BALDWIN HOUSE BA-265  
Gunpowder 001

m Detail, mantelpiece, *south parlor*

JDH

July 1978





GITTINGS-BALDWIN HOUSE  
Gunpowder 001

BA-265

detail, south corner

JDH

July 1978







GITTINGS - BALDWIN  
MAIN BARN

BA  
265-A

SE ELEV

JDH

JULY 1970



GITTINGS - BALDWIN HOUSE  
MAIN BARN

BA-265-A

SOUTHWEST EAVES DETAIL

JDA

JULY 1979



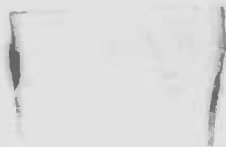
Gittings-Baldwin H0use  
Gunpowder 001

BA-265

Cornice Detail- soutyh corner

JDH

July 1978





Gittings - Baldwin House  
Main Barn

BA-205 ~~A~~ N.W. ELEV.

JDH

JULY 1978





Gittings-Baldwin House  
Gunpowder 001

BA-265

Former main (south ) entrance door

MHT Photo





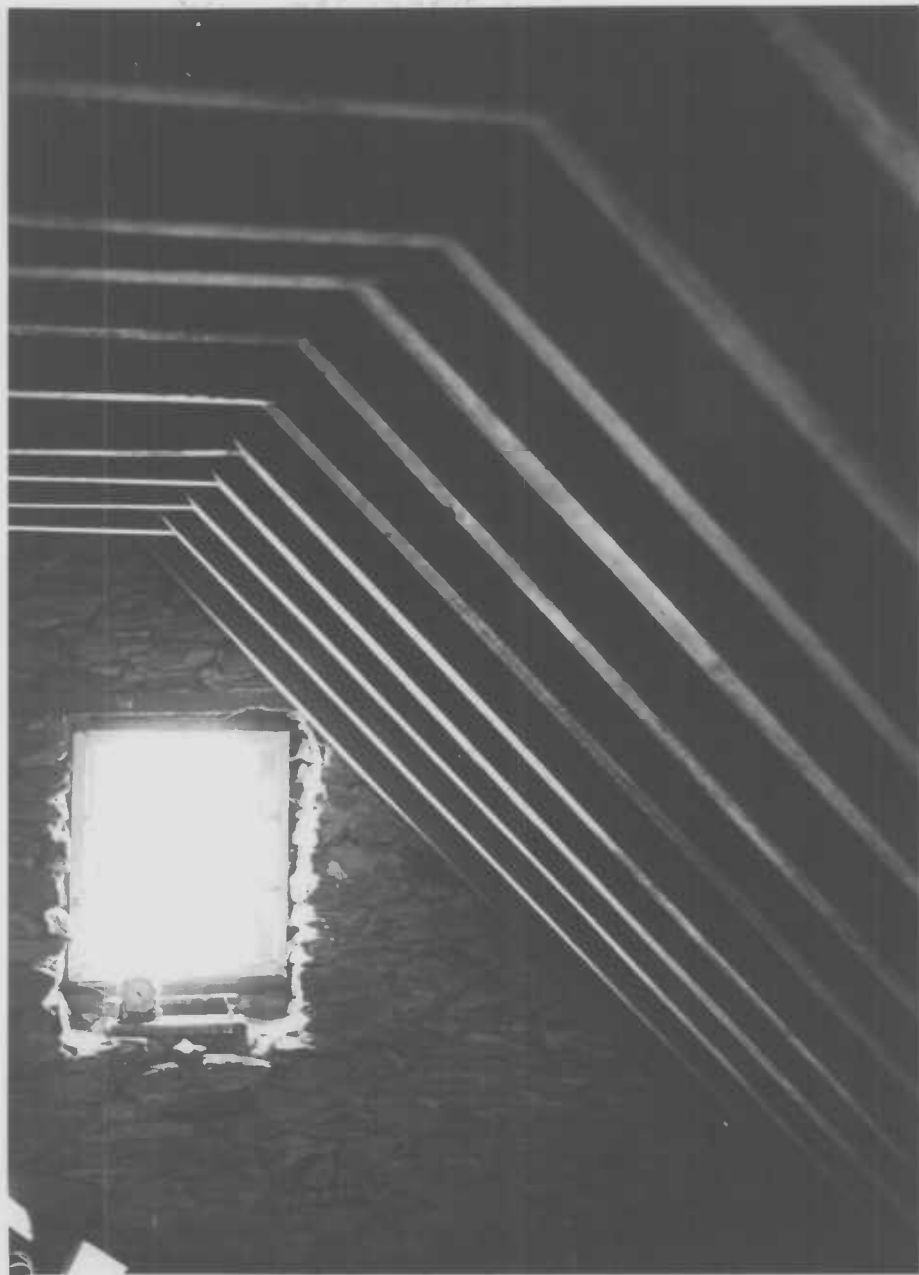
GITTINGS-BALDWIN HOUSE

BA-265

Gunpowder ~~265~~ 001

interior stain, detail

JDH      July 1978



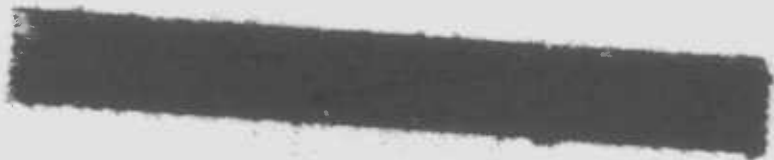
GITTINGS-BALDWIN HOUSE  
Gunpowder 001

BA-265

Interior, main roof

JDH

July 1978






GITTINGS - BALDWIN HOUSE  
Gunpowder 001

BA-265

Interior, stair hall

JDH

July 1978







Gittings- Baldwin House  
Gunpowdre 001

BA-265

Former main (south) entrance door

JDH

July ~~1978~~ 1978



GITTINGS/BALDWIN HOUSE BA-265-A  
MAIN BARN  
INTERIOR, UPPER LEVEL

JDH

JULY 1978

